

Information Memorandum Transmittal Office of Self-Sufficiency Programs



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Number: SS-IM-21-018

Issue date: 09/03/2021

Corrected: 10/25/2021

Topic: Food Benefits

Due date: 09/02/2021

Subject: SNAP Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) and Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) Adjustments for October 1, 2021 (FFY 2022 - Annual Standards Change)

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: Type B | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Message:

The annual Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) and Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) for SNAP have been released by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). The new standards are in ONE now and will be used for any determinations for October 2021 or later. There will be a mass update run before 9/15/2021 on all SNAP cases to ensure the new standards are used for eligibility determination groups (EDGs) in October and moving forward.

On October 1, 2021, the new standards **will be reflected** in the Oregon Programs Eligibility Notebook (OPEN) and MSC 5530, DHS 853, DHS 854, DHS 943, DHS 415R (retrieve latest version from the [forms server](#)). In addition, the [FS Calculator](#), and the [FS Benefits Estimator](#) will be updated with the new figures.

Forms will be available online in English by October 1, 2021 and translated versions will be posted as received from translation services. Paper copies may be requested from Publishing & Distribution as needed.

Because this is considered a mass change, no decision notice will be sent. A media release will be distributed to publicize this change per Oregon Administrative Rule [461-175-0250](#)(2) and federal regulations.

FFY 2022 COLA AND SUA VALUES

Countable Income Limits and Adjusted Income Limits:

Persons in Filing Group	Adjusted Income Limit 100% FPL	Countable Income Limit 130% FPL	Separate HH with 60+ years or Disability 165% FPL
1	\$1,074	\$1,396	\$1,771
2	\$1,452	\$1,888	\$2,396
3	\$1,830	\$2,379	\$3,020
4	\$2,209	\$2,871	\$3,644
5	\$2,587	\$3,363	\$4,268
6	\$2,965	\$3,855	\$4,893
7	\$3,344	\$4,347	\$5,517
8	\$3,722	\$4,839	\$6,141
+1	\$379	\$492	+\$625

Maximum Shelter Deduction:

Deduction	Amount
Maximum Shelter Deduction	\$597

Standard Utility Allowances (SUA):

Deduction	Amount
FUA	\$ 450
LUA	\$ 353
TUA	\$ 70
IUA	\$ 57

Standard Deductions:

Household size	1-3	4	5	6+
Standard Deduction	\$ 177	\$ 184	\$ 215	\$ 246

Maximum SNAP Allotments (Thrifty Food Plan)*:

*See end of IM for detailed explanation of changes specific to TFP

Persons in Filing Group	Amount
1	\$ 250
2	\$ 459
3	\$ 658
4	\$ 835
5	\$ 992
6	\$ 1,190
7	\$ 1,316
8	\$ 1,504
+1	+ \$ 188

Minimum Allotments for 1-2 household size:

Household Size	Amount
1 - 2	\$ 20

Resource Limits:

Household Type	Amount
Households with at least one member who is age 60 years or older or has a disability	\$3,750*
All other households	\$2,500
*Use this amount to assess liquid assets from lottery or gambling winnings under OAR 461-140-0262 .	

CRS income changes to threshold for reporting:

Income Type	Amount
Earned	\$125
Unearned	\$125

Thrifty Food Plan Modernization and Impact to Max SNAP Allowance

At the start of every new Federal Fiscal Year (FFY), the USDA update values for Cost of Living Allowances (COLA), Standard Utility Allowances (SUA) used in the SNAP Program, and the maximum SNAP allotment or Thrifty Food Plan (TFP). This year, the USDA conducted a data-driven review of the TFP, mandated by the 2018 Farm Bill and January 2021 Executive Order. In its re-evaluation, USDA utilized current food prices, what Americans typically eat, dietary guidance, and the nutrients in food items to align with recommendations in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2020-2025. The reevaluation concluded that the cost of a nutritious, practical, cost-effective diet is 21-23% higher than the current Thrifty Food Plan.

What does this mean for Oregon?

Oregon has been using 115% of the October 2020-September 2021 TFP since January 1, 2021 (see transmittal: [SS-PT-21-001](#)). The extra 15% is scheduled to end September 30, 2021. Normally this would have caused a decrease in SNAP benefits, but since the October 2021-September 2022 TFP values are 21-23% higher, maximum SNAP amounts will increase. The table below shows a comparison between the old TFP from FFY2021 (100% and 115%) and the new TFP for FFY 2022 (100%).

SNAP Payment Standards (TFP) Based			
Persons in benefit group	10/01/20 to 12/31/20 (100% OLD TFP)	01/01/21 to 09/30/21 (115% OLD TFP) *temporary increase	Effective 10/01/21 (100% NEW TFP)
1	\$204	\$234	\$250
2	\$374	\$430	\$459
3	\$535	\$616	\$658
4	\$680	\$782	\$835
5	\$807	\$929	\$992
6	\$969	\$1,114	\$1,190
7	\$1,071	\$1,232	\$1,316
8	\$1,224	\$1,408	\$1,504
+1	+\$153	+\$176	+\$188

The remaining COLA and SUA values were determined using their regular calculations and also resulted in an increase in values.

All the above changes go into effect on October 1, 2021.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s): SNAP Policy	
Phone:	Fax:
Email: SNAP.Policy@dhsoha.state.or.us	